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**AMENDMENT TO THE ABSTRACT**

The invention concerns a device for protecting an electric source adapted to power an electric member comprising a ~~control~~ test unit (6) adapted to deliver a signal (8) representing the availability of the electric source (2), to a control unit (10). The unit (10) determines an operating mode of the electric member (4) wherein the power consumption of the electric member is a function of the availability signal (8) received from the ~~control~~ test unit (6). The electric source (2) can power directly the electric member (4) and the control unit (10) can act on the electric member itself. The control unit (10) can also be interposed between the electric source (2) and the electric member (4) to modify at least one characteristic of the current powering the electric member.